

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

**ABSTRACT**

Forest Department - Diversion of 66.04 Ha of forest land, in favour of the Powergrid Corporation of India Limited for erection of 765 KV Nellore - Kurnool double circuit Transmission Line - Permission accorded - Orders - Issued.

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**ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (FOR.I) DEPARTMENT**

**G.O Ms. No. 48**

**Dated: 28 -4-2014.**

**Read the following:-**

1. From PCCF, AP, Hyderabad, Lr.Rc.No.32269/2011-F3, dt.1-6-2012.
2. State Govt. Lr.No.4138/For.I (1)/2012, Dated:23-8-2012.
3. From GoI, MoEF, Lr.F.No.8-74/2012-FC, Dt.8-1-2013.
4. State Govt. letter No. 4138/FOR.I (1)/2012, Dated: 27-8-2013
5. From GoI, MoEF, Lr F No. 8-74/2012-FC, dated.10-2-2014.

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**ORDER:**

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad in his letter 1<sup>st</sup> read above, has submitted a proposal under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of 66.04 Ha [25.85 Ha in Nellore Division & 40.19 Ha in WL Proddatur Division] of forest land for erection of 765 KV Nellore - Kurnool Double Circuit Transmission Line, in favour of Chief Manager / CAO-TL, Nellore, Powergrid Corporation of India Limited, and requested to forward the same to Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, for according necessary approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

2. The said proposal was sent to Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, for their approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 vide State Government letter 2<sup>nd</sup> read above.

3. Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, vide their letter 3<sup>rd</sup> read above, have accorded their approval in-principle (Stage.I) under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for the project, subject to compliance of certain conditions as stipulated therein.

4. The State Government vide letter 4<sup>th</sup> read above, have furnished compliance report on the conditions stipulated by the Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, while according in-principle (Stage.I) approval. The State Government vide further letters dated. 1-1-2014 and 31-1-2014 have furnished certain additional information as desired by the Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests.

5. Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, in their letter 5<sup>th</sup> read above, have accorded their approval (Stage.II) under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of 66.04 Ha of forest land, in favour of the Powergrid Corporation of India Limited for erection of 765 KV Nellore - Kurnool double circuit Transmission Line, subject to certain conditions as stipulated therein.

6. Government after careful examination of the proposal, hereby accord permission to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad, for diversion of 66.04 Ha of forest land, in favour of the Powergrid Corporation of India Limited for erection of 765 KV Nellore - Kurnool double circuit Transmission Line, subject to the following conditions:-.

- (i) Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;

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- (ii) State Forest Department shall raise compensatory afforestation over the degraded forest land double in extent to the forest area for diversion (i.e.  $2 \times 66.04 = 132.08$  hectare) from funds already realized from the user agency;
- (iii) Stat Government shall realize additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and transfer the same to the Ad-hoc CAMPA under intimation to this Ministry;
- (iv) The User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required;
- (v) The User Agency shall re-adjust the location of towers so as to avoid felling of Red Sander trees;
- (vi) To minimize the felling of for construction of transmission line, User Agency shall comply with the following guidelines:-
  - a) Below each conductor, width clearance of 3 mts, would be permitted for taking tension stringing equipment. The trees on such strips would have to be felled but after stringing work is completed, the natural regeneration will be allowed to come up.
  - b) One outer strip shall be left clear to permit maintenance of the transmission line;
  - c) In the remaining width the right of way felling / pollarding / pruning of trees will be done with the permission of the local forest Officer whenever necessary to maintain the electrical clearance, trees shall be allowed to be felled or lopped to the extent required, for preventing electrical hazards by maintaining the minimum clearance, as may be stipulated by the central Electricity Authority (CEA), between conductors and trees. The sag and swing of the conductors are to be kept in view while working out the minimum clearance mentioned as above;
  - d) State Forest Department shall implement the detailed scheme for creation and maintenance of plantation of dwarf species in right of way under the transmission line from funds already released from the User Agency; and
  - e) In case a portion of the transmission lines to be constructed is located in hilly areas, where adequate clearance is already available, trees shall not be cut;
- (vii) No labour camp shall be established on the forest land;
- (viii) The User Agency shall provide alternate fuel to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the adjacent forest areas;
- (ix) The boundary of the forest land being diverted shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, DGPS coordinates, forward and back bearing and distance from pillar to pillar;
- (x) The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal;
- (xi) The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of Central Government;

- (xii) Any tree felling shall be done only when it is unavoidable and that too under strict supervision of the State Forest Department;
- (xiii) User Agency shall submit annual self-monitoring report, indication status of compliance to the conditions stipulated in the approval, to the State Government and the concerned Regional Office of the Ministry of Environment & Forests.
- (xiv) Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment & Forests, and its Regional Office (Southern Zone) Bangalore may stipulate, from time to time, in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife; and
- (xv) The User Agency and the State Government of Andhra Pradesh shall ensure compliance to provisions of the all relevant Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.

7. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad is directed to take further necessary action in the matter.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

**D. LAKSHMI PARTHASARATHY BHASKAR**  
**SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.**

To  
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,  
Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.

**Copy to:**

The Inspector General of Forests,  
Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests,  
Paryavaran Bhavan, CGO Complex

The Chief Manager / CAO-TL, Nellore,  
Powergrid Corporation of India Limited,.

SF/SC

// FORWARDED :: BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER.